

Presentation of
THE SEVENTH
FERDINAND C. VALENTINE MEDAL
AND AWARD TO TERENCE MILLIN *

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THE occasion of the Valentine Award is the high point of the year for the Section on Urology of The New York Academy of Medicine. We honor the late Dr. Ferdinand C. Valentine, whose generous bequest to The New York Academy of Medicine made the Valentine Fund possible.

Our purpose in gathering here on this occasion is twofold.

Primarily we honor a living person who has made an outstanding contribution to the field of urology. The medalist is selected by the Advisory Committee of the Section on Urology and approved by the Council and the trustees of the Academy. There have been six Valentine medalists: Dr. C. B. Huggins, Dr. Meredith F. Campbell, Dr. Harry Goldblatt, Dr. Moses Swick, Dr. Theodore Mc C. Davis, and Dr. Alexander B. Gutman.

Our second interest is to award the Valentine Fellowship, in order to perpetuate, stimulate, and make it possible for the recent urology resident to continue in basic investigation. The Advisory Committee of the Section has selected Dr. William S. Tunner of the New York Hospital as the Valentine Fellow for the period July 1, 1968 to June 30, 1969. The decision has been approved by the Council and the trustees of the Academy.

The Valentine Medalist for 1968 has come from that delightful land, the Emerald Isle. Mr. Terrence Millin was born on January 9, 1903, at Helen's Bay, Northern Ireland. While attending secondary school he was the Irish Schools high-jump champion. His excellence in athletics achieved for him the captaincy of the Dublin University Rugby Football

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Club and a position on the Irish Olympic Rugby Football Team of 1925. He was graduated with honor in mathematics and science from Dublin University. In 1927 he received his medical degree from Trinity College, Dublin. His postgraduate training in urology was taken in London and he received traveling scholarships to Europe and the United States. To quote Mr. Millin, he did Irish missionary work in London until his retirement from private practice in 1962. Since then Mr. Millin and his wife Molly have resided in a comfortable farm house at Enniskerry, County Wicklow, where they indulge in agriculture, horticulture, and both indoor and outdoor sports. Mr. Millin's love and enthusiasm for medicine did not come to an abrupt end with his retirement. He has directed his energy, experience, and time to the Royal College of Surgeons in Ireland, which has honored him with its presidency for the past three years; he now serves there as a councilor. He has kept close contact with his past associates in London.

Mr. Millin is a reticent, warm man, under whose exterior lies a productive and inquisitive nature. It was natural that he was not inclined to accept the dissension that prevailed between the three schools: those who advocated respectively the suprapubic, perineal, and transurethral approach to the prostate gland.

In 1909 Dr. W. J. Van Stockum performed the first extravesical suprapubic prostatectomy. In 1945 Mr. Millin developed and standardized the retropubic approach as an adequate route for the treatment of all pathological conditions within the prostate gland, vesical neck, and posterior urethra, including urinary incontinence. Therefore he may rightly be known as the father of retropubic prostatectomy. The method of prostatic capsule closure, urethral catheter drainage, and drainage of the space Retzius are widely known. Patients treated by these methods are comfortable during the postoperative period and experience minimal postoperative loss of blood. Mr. Millin has developed and improved special instruments to facilitate the approach. His monograph, *Retropubic Urinary Surgery*, published in 1947, is a detailed account of the technique.

The enthusiastic acceptance of the retropubic operation has justified Mr. Millin's long-felt dissatisfaction with procedures previously accepted in prostatic surgery. Joseph P. Memmelaar, Robert Lich, Walter S. Grant and Joseph E. Maurer, Harry Grabstald, David A. Culp, and Ruben Flocks, among others, have further developed the retropubic

route for the radical surgical treatment of carcinoma of the prostate gland.

During the London blitz of World War II Mr. Millin served with personal distinction in the Civilian Emergency Medical Service. He has been honored by many offices and by membership in many international learned societies. His hospital appointments were many. He is a member of the British Association of Urological Surgeons and of the Section of Urology of the Royal Society of Medicine. He served both organizations as president. He was the St. Peter's Medalist of the British Association of Urological Surgeons. He enjoys honorary fellowships in the American College of Surgeons and in the American Urological Association. He is a corresponding member of the American Association of Genito-Urinary Surgeons. The American Academy of Arts and Sciences, Boston, presented Mr. Millin with its Francis Amory Prize in 1955. The French, Belgian, Italian, Turkish, and Romanian Urological Associations have each granted him an honorary membership. Mr. Millin has the distinction of wearing the Medal of Honor from the Province of Brabant. He has a dozen publications to his credit.

Mr. Terence Millin: it is an honor and pleasure, on behalf of the Section on Urology of The New York Academy of Medicine, to present to you this Valentine Medal and Award for your outstanding contribution to the field of urology and to the welfare of its patients.

REFERENCES

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